

PART 512 – CONSTRUCTION

SUBPART C - EVALUATION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

512.21(a) (2)

PA512.20 General

(a) This Pennsylvania supplement to the National Engineering Manual describes requirements for the use of used equipment in the implementation of conservation practices. The term “used equipment” in this policy refers to equipment that was previously in service for other than the conservation practice under consideration, whether refurbished or not.

- (1) Used equipment allowed for possible inclusion in conservation practices includes, but is not limited to:
 - Above-ground aluminum conveyance pipe, with new gaskets
 - Fence posts and stays
 - Buried steel, liquid-storage tanks
 - Rubber tires for use as watering troughs
 - Concrete slats for use as stream crossings
- (2) The following used equipment, but not limited to, is specifically excluded from use with conservation practices:
 - Flexible hoses and couplers
 - Sprinkler heads
 - Valves and any below-ground pipe or appurtenances
 - Manure pumps (unless an integral part of a standard detail drawing concurred in by NRCS)
 - PVC and HDPE materials
 - Fence wire
 - Electrical equipment
- (3) Other used equipment shall be allowed as determined by the State Conservation Engineer

PA512.21 Evaluation Procedure

(a) Determination of the used equipment quality is the responsibility of the landowner/operator. The following steps must be followed for consideration of used equipment:

- (1) The owner/operator must have a design approved by NRCS or an NRCS Technical Service Provider before NRCS will consider the acceptance of used equipment. This design must be on file at the appropriate NRCS office that has completed or reviewed the design.

PART 512 – CONSTRUCTION

- (2) Criteria for acceptance of used equipment shall be as specified in Exhibit 1. After approval of the design, a Qualified Inspector shall inspect the used equipment to determine if it meets or exceeds this criteria and the design requirements. Unacceptable equipment may be refurbished and resubmitted for inspection.
- (3) After completing the inspection, and if necessary refurbishing, the landowner/operator will provide documentation to the NRCS that the used equipment has been inspected by a Qualified Inspector and is of sufficient quality as is, or has been refurbished to a satisfactory level. The documentation shall state the type(s) of equipment examined, identification (e.g. size, serial numbers, etc.), and what, if any, refurbishing was done.
- (4) After receiving the documentation from the landowner/operator, the NRCS will evaluate the information and send a letter to the landowner/operator approving or denying the used equipment.

(b) A Qualified Inspector is defined as one of the following:

- (1) For irrigation equipment:
 - Licensed Professional Engineer with irrigation system design and installation experience in Pennsylvania
 - A Certified Irrigation Contractor (CIC) or Certified Agricultural Irrigation Specialist (CAIS), as defined by the Irrigation Association
- (2) For fencing:
 - Certified Nutrient Management Planner or Grazing Specialist
 - Established fencing supply dealer
- (3) For waste management equipment:
 - Licensed Professional Engineer with buried steel tank design and installation experience in Pennsylvania
 - A contractor certified by the Steel Tank Institute for using sti-P₃ tank certification procedures.
- (4) For concrete slats and rubber tires;
 - Licensed Professional Engineer
 - Persons with appropriate approval authority, as set forth in PA-ENG-5 (Engineering Job Approval chart)

(c) The value of used equipment shall show cost savings over new equipment.

PART 512 – CONSTRUCTION

EXHIBIT 1

Criteria for acceptance:

- A. Above-ground aluminum conveyance pipe:
 - Not exhibit any dents deeper than 1/8" or any punctures,
 - Not have any signs of pitting or other corrosion due to electrolysis, chemical transfer, etc.,
 - New gaskets,
 - Clamps that provide leak-proof joint connections.
- B. Fence posts and stays:
 - No signs of rot or other deterioration (e.g., cracks, wear),
 - No reduction in the required cross-sectional area
- C. Buried steel, liquid-storage tanks:
 - No deposits of leaded fuels or other toxic chemicals that could have been previously stored within,
 - No pitting, corrosion, or cracks that would impair the strength or watertightness,
 - No dents greater than 1/4" or punctures.
- D. Rubber tires:
 - No holes, unless patched to be water-tight
 - No exposed steel belts
 - Any toxic chemicals (e.g. antifreeze) must have been removed
- E. Concrete slats:
 - Be in one solid piece and no less than 3/4 the original size
 - No cracks greater than 1/8-inch
 - No holes larger than 1-square foot, and no more than 2-square feet of total holes per slat
 - No exposed steel reinforcement, except at smooth saw cuts.